

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Research Associate

Detailed Job Description

The Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Research Associate works full-time (40 hrs./wk.) year-round and assists in the planning, execution, and monitoring of a variety of projects throughout Ohio related to the conservation and recovery of amphibians and reptiles. The position is part of the Ohio Biodiversity Conservation Partnership at The Ohio State University and reports to the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Program Manager. Current projects include implementing the Ohio Conservation Plans for the Eastern Hellbender and Eastern Massasauga and developing and implementing conservation plans for other Ohio species of conservation concern. This requires extensive travel throughout the state with frequent overnight stays, especially during the field season (April – October). Specific duties of the position include:

- Surveying and monitoring, including capturing, marking, and measuring animals.
- Collecting genetic samples and preparing museum voucher specimens.
- Conducting habitat assessments, including vegetation assessments, water chemistry, zig-zag pebble counts, and QHEI.
- Maintaining field equipment and supplies.
- Training and overseeing seasonal staff.
- Working cooperatively with partners, including local, state, and federal agencies, land trusts, zoos, and land owners and managers.
- Developing written conservation plans.
- Preparing and entering data for the Wildlife Diversity Database.
- Conducting literature reviews, analyzing data, and preparing reports and manuscripts.
- Presenting findings through presentations and posters at conferences.
- Assisting with administrative duties.

Qualifications

Requirements for the position include:

- A minimum of one-year experience conducting surveys or field research with amphibians or reptiles.
- Highly motivated and self-starting with the ability to accomplish tasks with minimal supervision.
- Excellent communication skills; ability to speak and write clearly and accurately.
- Confidence and willingness to identify and overcome issues as they arise.
- Ability to work well with others in a collaborative fashion and be professional and respectful while interacting with private landowners and the public.
- Ability to work under a variety of adverse conditions, including in cold water and summer heat.
- Dedication to recording thorough and accurate data.
- Familiarity with computers and common software, such as Microsoft Office.
- Physical ability to lift at least 50 lbs. from the ground and carry bulky field gear up to ½ mile through rough terrain.
- Ability to swim.
- Possession of a valid Driver's License.
- B.S. in Biology or equivalent education/experience.

Desired qualifications include: Proficiency with R statistical software; experience with Hellbenders, Massasaugas, freshwater turtles, and other species native to Ohio.

Requires extensive travel throughout the state with frequent overnight stays, especially during the field season, using personal vehicle with travel expenses reimbursed.

Salary: \$15 – 17.32/hr.

Posting End Date: 11/29/2020

This position is contingent upon satisfactory progress in the position and continued funding.

Applications must be submitted online at <https://www.jobsatosu.com/postings/104182> and should include a cover letter and resume. Applicants should provide three professional references to be contacted as a part of the application process.

Requires the successful completion of a background check.

Direct questions to:

Greg Lipps

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Coordinator

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